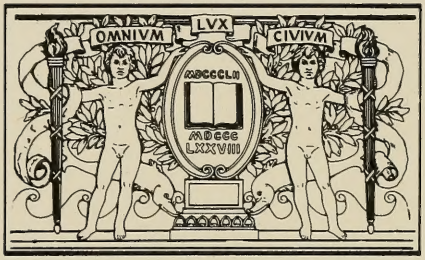
Thacher

HERALDIC DESCRIPTION

ARMS: Gules, a cross moline *argent;* on a chief *d'or*, three grasshoppers, proper.

CREST: A grasshopper, proper, resting on a helmet, visor closed.

CS71
.T367
1971



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THACHER ISLAND

MASSACHUSETTS

OFF

CAPE ANN

CS71
.T367
1971

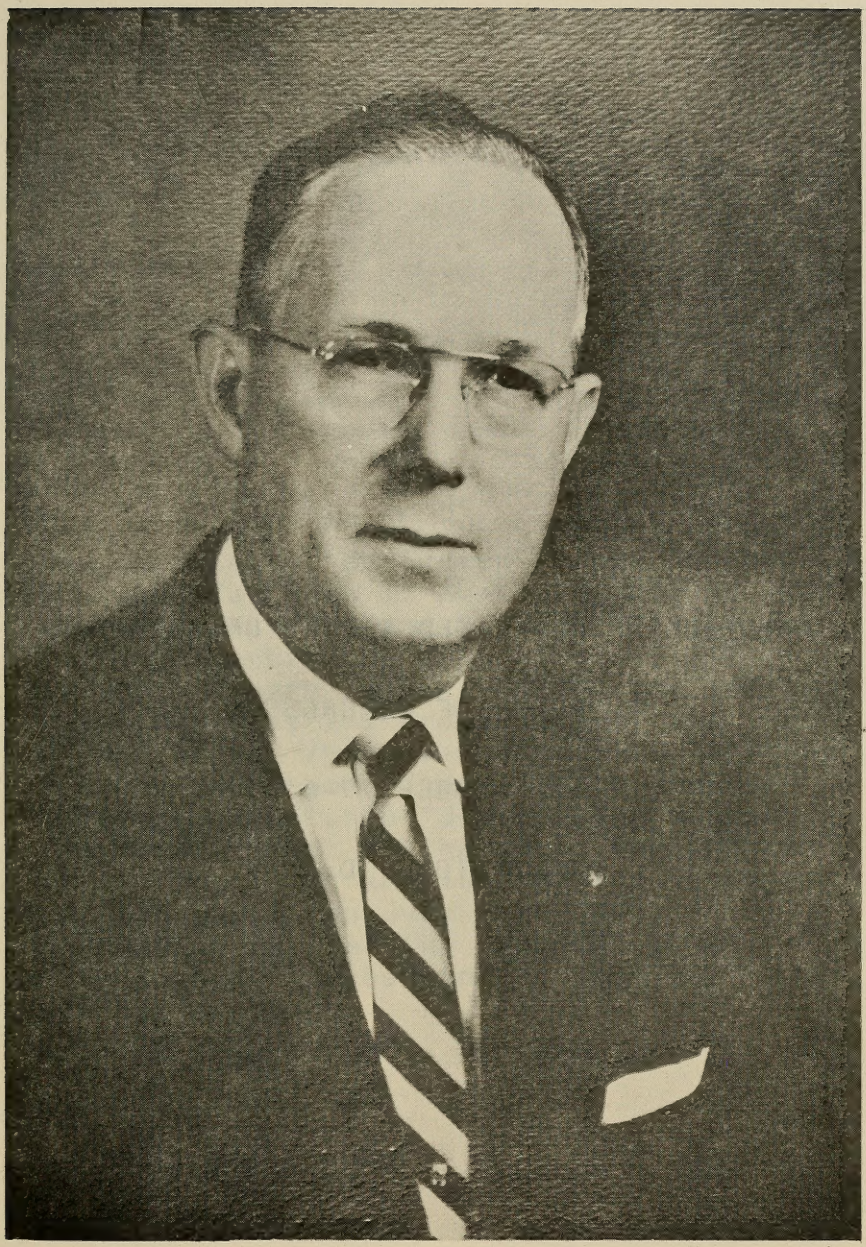
THACHER ISLAND

COMPILED BY

ELWOOD JAMES[11] THACHER

WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA

1971



Elwood James Thacher
U.S. Geological Survey
Retired
1967

PRINTED IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

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CATALOG NUMBER 79-63857

WASHINGTON, D.C.

This booklet is dedicated to all Thacher-Thatcher families in America, England, or wherever located, and particularly to Anthony[2] Thacher the progenitor of all Yarmouth Branch Thacher-Thatcher's and to Thomas[3] Thacher the progenitor of all Boston Branch Thacher-Thatcher's. Anthony[2] Thacher and Thomas[3] Thacher both came to America on the ship "James" from England. The "James" left Southampton, England on April 5th, 1635, and landed near Ipswich, Massachusetts, on June 4th, 1635. From this point in time the descendants of both Anthony[2] Thacher and Thomas[3] Thacher are numerous.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

I am indeed grateful to the New York Genealogical and Biographical Society of New York, and the Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. from whose libraries and Thacher family records, I collected the information needed for a Thacher Island family booklet, and posterity.

I am also grateful to the U.S. Coast Guard for my visit to Thacher Island, Massachusetts, in 1971, where I explored the island first hand, took pictures of it's rocky shores, and stood on some of the rocks of that island where Anthony[2] Thacher 1588-1667, and his wife Elizabeth Jones Thacher were saved from a watery grave in 1635.

Thacher Island is the resting place of Rev. Joseph Avery's eldest daughter. Her body was washed ashore on August 15, 1635 (her exact location of burial is not known). She was buried in Thacher Island by Anthony[2] Thacher, Rev. Joseph Avery's cousin.

Elwood James[11] Thacher

PREFACE

Anthony[2] Thacher, 1588-1667, is a part of the Yarmouth Branch of the Thacher-Thatcher family. Thomas[3] Thacher, 1620-1678, his nephew, came to America on the ship James from England with his uncle Anthony in 1635. Thomas[3] Thacher is a part of the Boston Branch of the Thacher-Thatcher family.

Listed on the next few pages, eight through fifteen, are some Boston Branch family references, particularly concerning Thomas[3] Thacher's progenitors, and showing a direct line of descendants for our family use, and remembrance.

The episode of Thacher Island continues on page sixteen.

Boston Branch Thacher's
Progenitors and Descendants

A compilation of Thomas[3] Thacher, 1620-1678, his progenitors to 1545, and a direct line of descendants to James Peter[9] Thacher, 1849-1920, and his descendants to 1973, is noted here. Chart pages showing direct line families and lineage is included in each volume.

Volume One: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
and
Progenitors
(Peter[1], Peter[2], Thomas[3])

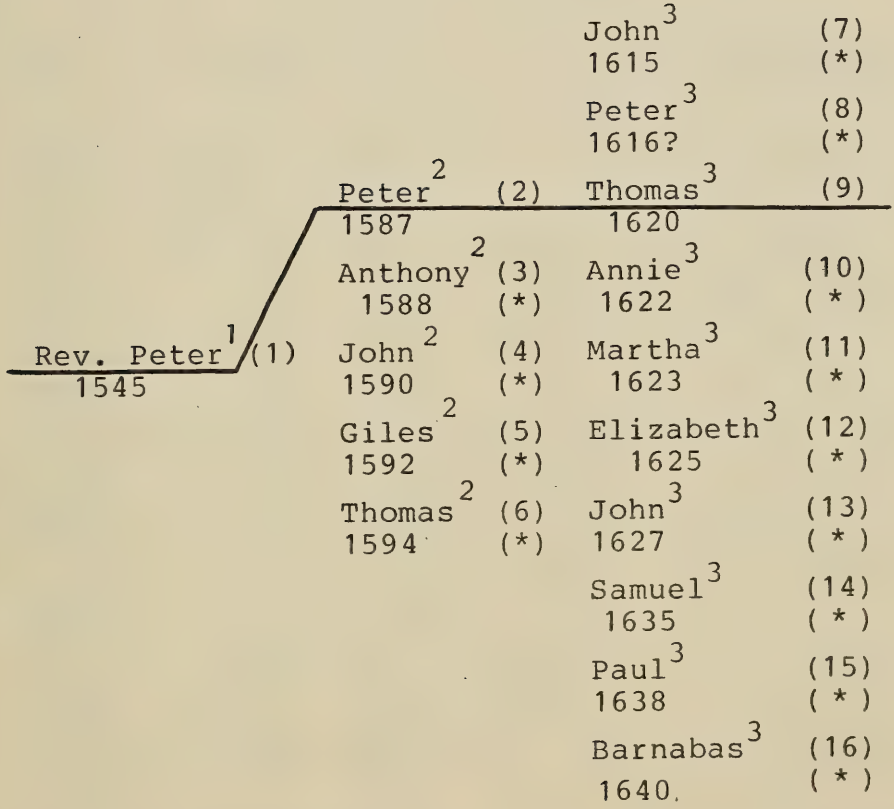
Volume Two: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Progenitors and Descendants
Reference Index

Volume Three: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(Ralph[4], Peter[5], John[6]
(Peter[7], Peter[8], James Peter[9])

Volume Four: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(James Peter[9] Descendants)

Volume Five: Thomas[3] Thacher
1620-1678
Boston Branch
Descendants
(Ralph[10] and William Peter[10] Descendants)

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Rev. Peter[1] 1545, Rev. Peter[2] 1587



(1) Reference Index
Identity Number

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Rev. Thomas[3] 1620, Rev. Ralph[4] 1648

John[3] 1615	(*)			Thomas[5]	(93)
				1670	
Peter[3] 1616?	(*)			Elizabeth[5]	(94)
				1672	
Thomas[3] 1620	(9)	Thomas[4] 1644	(10)	Ann (a)[5] 1673	(95)
Annie[3] 1622	(*)	Peter[4] 1651	(11)	Ruth[5] 1675	(96)
Martha[3] 1623	(*)	Ralph[4] 1648	(12)	Rodolphus[5] 1677	(97)
Elizabeth[3] 1625	(*)	Elizabeth[4] 16--	(14)	Lydia[5] 1679	(98)
John[3] 1627	(*)	Patience (Kemp) (adopted)		Mary[5] 1681	(99)
Samuel[3] 1635	(*)			Ann (a)[5] 1683	(100)
Paul[3] 1638	(*)			Peter[5] 1686	(23)
Barnabas[3] 1640	(*)				

(*) See Yarmouth Genealogy
Thacher-Thatcher Families

Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Peter[5] 1686, John[6] 1739

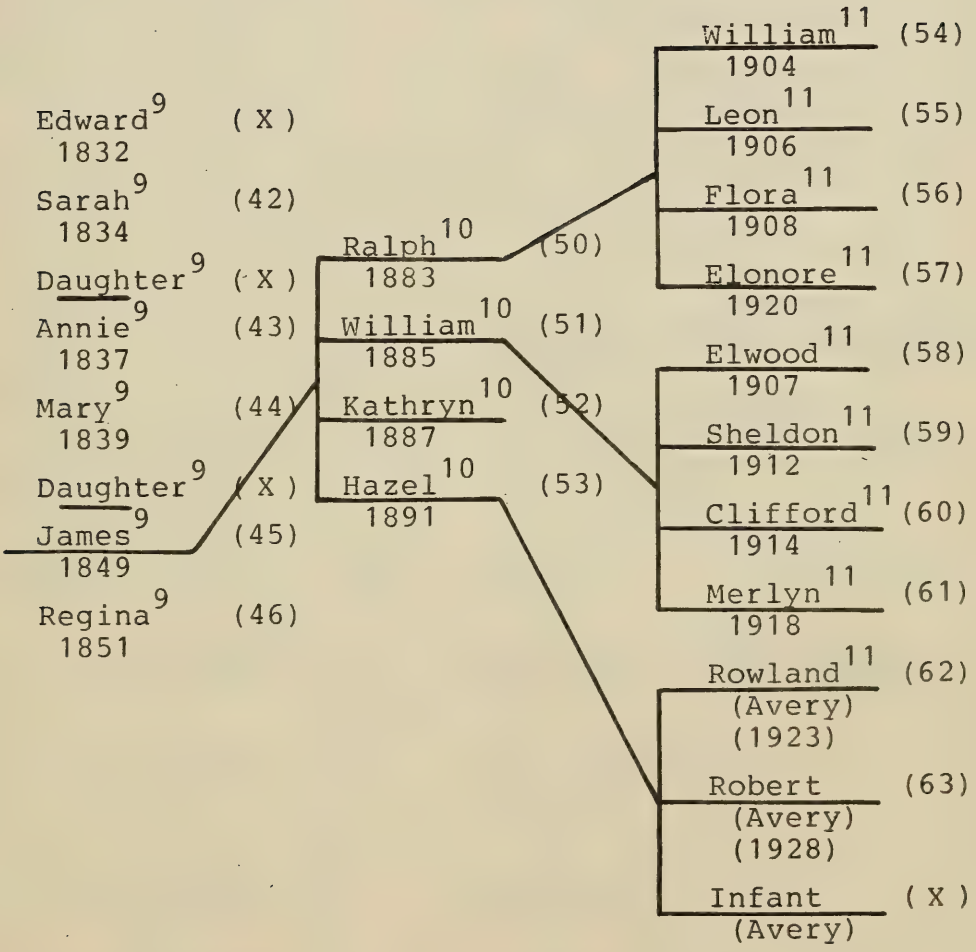
		Peter[6] 1716	(120)		
		John[6] 1719	(121)	Abigail[7] 1766	(X)
Thomas[5] 1670	(93)	Lydia[6] 1720	(122)	Jared[7] 1768	(151)
Elizabeth[5] 1672	(94)	Joseph[6] 1722	(123)	Peter[7] 1770	(27)
Ann(a)[5] 1673	(95)	Abigail[6] 1725	(124)	John[7] 1771	(X)
Ruth[5] 1675	(96)	Ruth[6] 1727	(125)	James[7] 1773	(152)
Rodolphus[5] 1677	(97)	Rodolphus[6] 1729	(126)	Lydia[7] 1776	(153)
Lydia[5] 1679	(98)	Samuel[6] 1730	(127)	Abigail[7] 1778	(154)
Mary[5] 1681	(99)	Josiah[6] 1733	(128)	Paulina[7] 1780	(155)
Ann(a)[5] 1683	(100)	Jared[6] 1735	(129)	John[7] 1783	(156)
Peter[5] 1686	(23)	Ebenezer[6] 1738	(X)	Jesse[7] 1785	(X)
		John[6] 1739	(25)	Nancy[7] 1787	(157)
		Rodolphus[6] 1742	(130)		

(X) died young

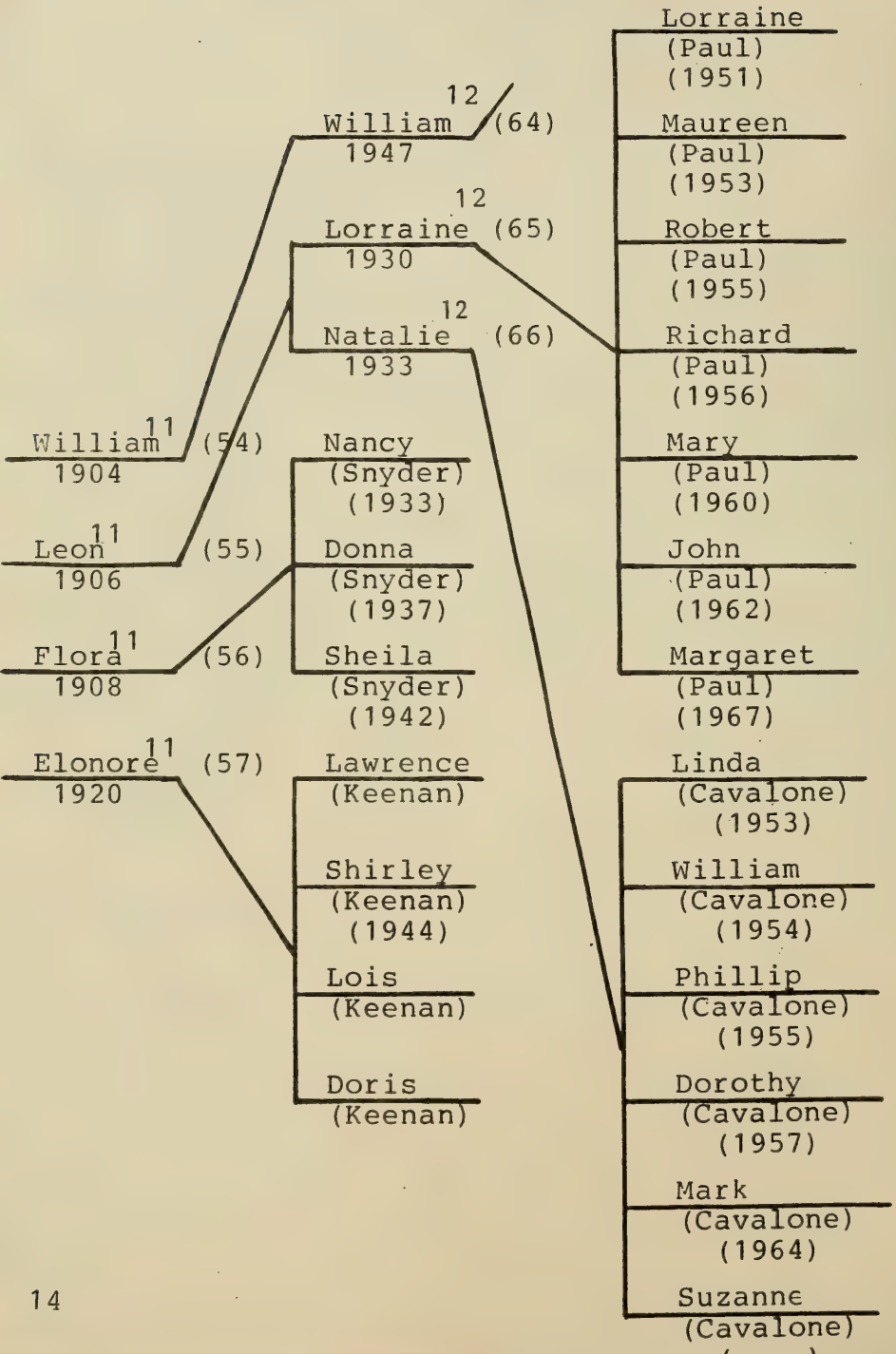
Thacher Families
Boston Branch
Peter[7] 1770, Peter[8] 1808

		Augustus[8] 1796	(264)		
Abigail[7] 1766	(X)	Emeline[8] 1798	(265)		
Jared[7] 1768	(151)	Nancy[8] 1800	(266)		
Peter[7] 1770	(27)	Sheldon[8] 1802	(29)	Edward[9] 1832	(X)
John[7] 1771	(X)	Abigail[8] 1804	(267)	Sarah[9] 1834	(42)
James[7] 1773	(152)	Lucy[8] 1806	(268)	Daughter[9]	(X)
Lydia[7] 1776	(153)	Peter[8] 1808	(31)	Annie[9] 1837	(43)
Abigail[7] 1778	(154)	Elizabeth[8] 1810	(269)	Mary[9] 1839	(44)
Paulina[7] 1780	(155)	Apphia[8] 1811	(270)	Daughter[9]	(X)
John[7] 1783	(156)	Thomas[8] 1815	(30)	James[9] 1849	(45)
Jesse[7] 1785	(X)	George[8] 1817	(32)	Regina[9] 1851	(46)
Nancy[7] 1787	(157)	John[8]	(X)		
		Charles[8]	(X)		

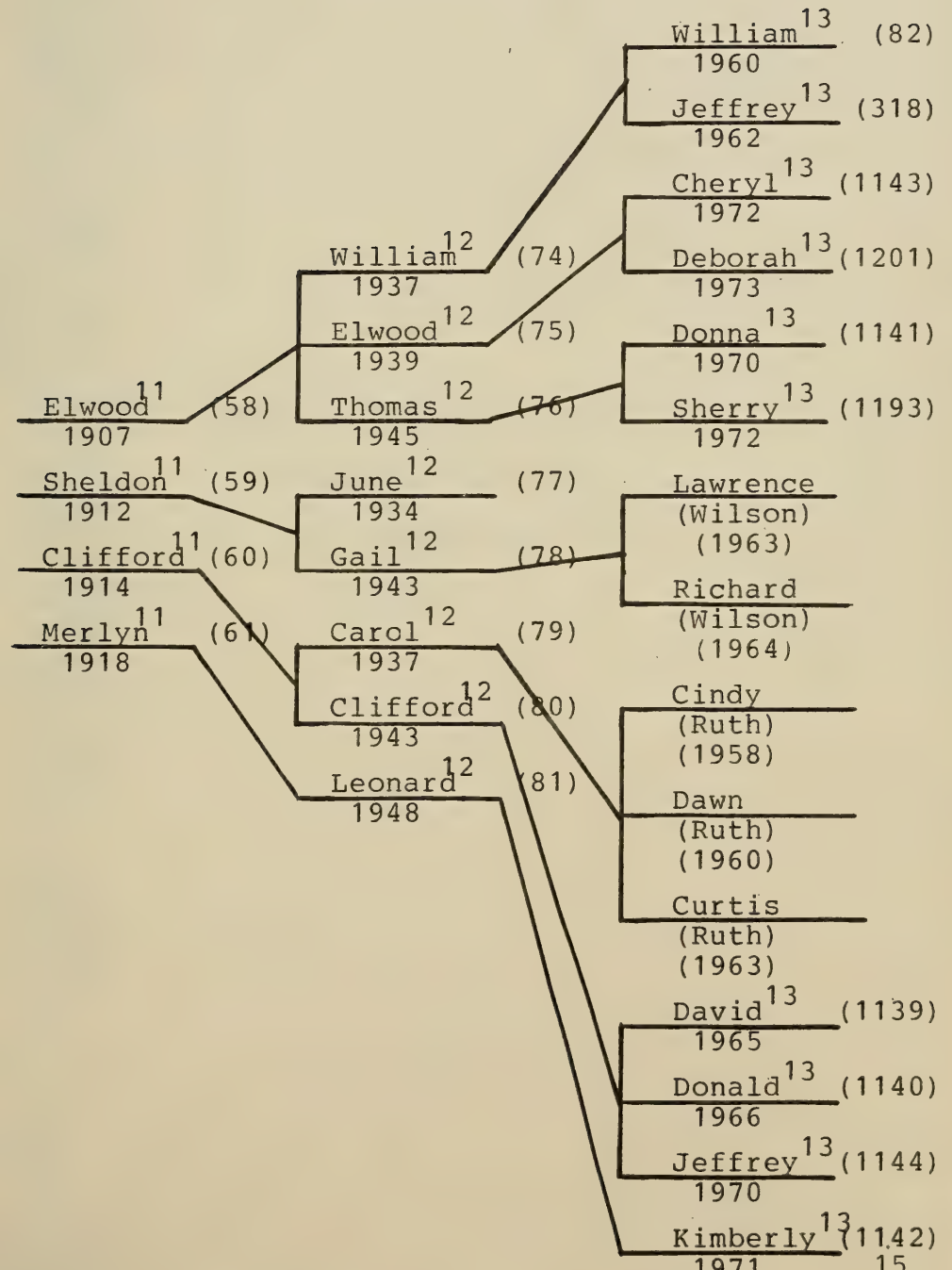
James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



James Peter[9] Thacher
1849-1920
Descendants
Boston Branch



U. S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

ROCKPORT QUADRANGLE

MASSACHUSETTS

1960

Rockport
Back Harbor
The Headland
Old Garden Beach
Straitsmouth Island
Pool Hill
Briar Swamp
Loop Pond
C A P E A N N
Great Hill
Rum Rock Lake
Community Sch.
Whale Cove
Flat Pt
Loblolly Cove
Lands End
Emerson Point
Henrys Pond
Thacher Island
Pebbly Beach
Cape Hedge Beach
Lands End
Cape Hedge
Long Beach
Milk Island
Brier Neck
Good Harbor Beach
Salt Island
Salt Island Ledge
Bass Rocks
MAIN BOSTON AND MAINE
GLOUCESTER CITY BDY
THACHER ROAD
GRANITE
Cape Pond
Water 174
6869 II N.A. (GLOUCESTER)
SALEM 18 MI
GLOUCESTER 1.4 MI

Thacher Island North Tower, and Cape Ann Lighthouse, right. Looking east from the mainland (1971).

Rocky east shore line, U.S. Coast Guard Station, North Tower, and Cape Ann Lighthouse, right. Looking north (1971).

Thacher Island

Rocky east shore line, looking north from the south end of Thacher Island (1971).

Cape Ann Lighthouse on the rocky east shore of Thacher Island. Looking north (1971).

Rocky shouls on the south shore line of Thacher Island. Looking west (1971).

The name "Thacher Island" originated following an Act of The Massachusetts Colonial Court:

1636-7: "At a General Court houlden at Boston, 1st month, 9th day, 1636-7, Mr. Anthony Thacher had granted him the small island at the head of Cape Ann upon which he was preserved from shipwreck, as his proper inheritance."

Anthony[2] Thacher was the second of five sons born to Rev. Peter[1] Thacher (1545-1624) of Queen Camel, Somerset County, England, vicar of St. Barnabas Church. Anthony was born in Queen Camel on _____, 1588.9; resided at Queen Camel and Salisbury, England, Marblehead (then Salem) and Yarmouth, Massachusetts; he was a curate of the church of England and one of the original grantees of the town of Yarmouth, Massachusetts; he died at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, between June 30, 1667 and August 22, 1667, and was buried on his own land in Yarmouth. He married first at _____; date_____, 1619 about; to Mary_____; born at_____ _____; date_____; she died at Salisbury, England, July 23, 1634, and was buried from St. Edmund's Church, Salisbury, July 26, 1634, was interred probably in the yard of that church, although no stone marks her grave; her parentage is unknown. Anthony[2] Thacher married a second time at _____, England, February_____, 1635, about six weeks before the date of his sailing for New England, which was on April 5th, 1635, to Elizabeth Jones, born at_____; date_____; she died at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, presumably, although we have no record thereof; date of death_____, subsequent to the death of her husband as she was appointed his executrix; she was presumably buried alongside her husband. Her parentage is unknown, but she was a sister of Richard Jones of Dorchester, Massachusetts, who came to this country from Dinder, England, sailing from Waimouth, England, March, March 20th, 1635.

Children by first marriage:

William[3], born at_____; date_____, previous to 1620, according to D. W. Allen's Thacher genealogy, p.32; he came to this country with his father in the "James" died

August 15, 1635, being drowned in shipwreck on that date, and his body was not recovered. The place of his birth is not a matter of record.

Edith[3], born at Queen Camel, Somerset County, England, probably about February 1, 1621.2, as it is recorded in the Diocesan transcript of the Queen Camel Parish Register at Wells that she was baptized at Queen Camel by Rev. Peter Thacher, February 7, 1621.2. She died August 15, 1635, being drowned in shipwreck on that date and her body was not recovered.

Mary[3], born at _____; date _____; died August 15, 1635, being drowned in shipwreck on that date and her body was not recovered. The place of her birth is not a matter of record.

Peter[3], born at _____; date _____; died August 15, 1635, being drowned in shipwreck on that date and his body was not recovered. The place of his birth is not a matter of record.

Benjamin[3], born at Salisbury, England, on April 13, 1634, between the hours of one and two o'clock in the morning; he was baptized at St. Edmund's Church, April 27, 1634, according to the Parish Register of that church; he died at Salisbury, England, about September 1, 1639, and was buried from St. Edmund's Church, September 4, 1639, and was probably interred in the yard at that church, but no stone marks his grave. This child was left by his father, when he left Salisbury to embark for New England, in the care of the child's uncle, Rev. Peter Thacher of St. Edmund's to whom Anthony Thacher agreed to pay £20 for his maintenance which agreement is mentioned in the Will of Rev. Peter Thacher of St. Edmunds. Rev. Peter Thacher

was Anthony Thacher's oldest brother under whom he was curate before he left England.

Children by second marriage:

John[3], born at Marblehead (then Salem), Massachusetts, March 17, 1638.9; died at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, May 8, 1713; married first, Rebecca Winslow; married second, Lydia Gorham.

Judah[3], born at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, probably, _____; died at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, November 4, 1676; married Mary Thornton.

Bethia[3], born at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, probably _____; died most likely at Bristol, Rhode Island, on December 19, 1725; married Jabez Howland.

It was April 5th, 1635, when Anthony[2] Thacher and his wife Elizabeth Jones Thacher embarked from Southhampton, on the ship "James" of London, England, bound for America. They arrived in New England on June the 4th, 1635. Anthony[2] Thacher and his wife Elizabeth in company with his cousin Rev. Joseph Avery and their children sojourned a short time thereafter in Ipswich, Massachusetts. It was during this time that Rev. Avery received a call to preach at Marblehead, Massachusetts (then a part of Salem), but after some deliberation he decided not to accept. Anthony[2] Thacher and Rev. Avery then, with their families, removed to Newbury, Massachusetts, with a view of settling there. But, Rev. Avery being solicited so often, both by men of place and by the Magistrates, and by Mr. Cotton, and most of the ministers, he accepted the call to Marblehead. Rev. Avery with his family of eleven all told, accompanied by Anthony Thacher, his wife Elizabeth and his

four children by his first wife returned to Ipswich, and from there on April 11, 1635, embarked for Marblehead in a pinnace sent by the people of Marblehead but belonging to Isaac Allerton of Plymouth.

They hoisted sail on the following morning, April 12th and began their voyage. On April 14 at about ten o'clock at nite a fresh gale of wind split the ship's old and used sails, but because it was night the mariners decided to cast anchor and wait until morning to change their sails. But before daylight on April 15th a mighty storm developed as never before known in New England. A storm so furious that the ship's anchor came home. The mariners let out more cable, but it slipped away and the pinnace was driven ahead of the winds and waves. Before long the small schooner was blown between a large split rock and wrecked. All aboard were lost except Anthony[2] Thacher and his wife Elizabeth, who were washed up on the shore of a small island. Here they remained for five days, until April 20th, 1635, when they were rescued by the mariners of a passing boat. Anthony and his wife arrived in Marblehead on the following day, and remained here for some time. Marblehead, however, was not separated from Salem until 1649. So, although they resided in Marblehead, they were in reality inhabitants of Salem, Massachusetts.

The entire episode of the shipwreck which terminated their voyage, and so frequently refered to by early New England Chronicles is best set forth in Anthony[2] Thacher's letter to his brother Rev. Peter[2] Thacher in Salisbury, England, written a few days after April 20th, 1635, the date of his rescue by mariners of a boat that came by the island at about three o'clock in the afternoon.

At the time of the wreck, Anthony named the

island "Thacher's Woe" and the rock on which the schooner was wrecked, "Avery His Fall." To this end, their fall and losses might be held in perpetual rememberance. In this island, Anthony buried the eldest daughter of Rev. Joseph Avery. She being the only body Anthony found washed up on the island after the shipwreck. The storm which occasioned the wreck was a most memorable one, during which the tide rose some twenty feet, and it was said to have been the most terrific storm within memory of the native Indians thereabout.

Anthony[2] Thacher wrote a letter to his brother Rev. Peter[2] Thacher in Salisbury, England, after the shipwreck off Cape Ann, on August 15, 1635, in which he said:

ANTHONY[2] THACHER'S LETTER TO HIS BROTHER, REV. PETER[2] THACHER IN SALISBURY, ENGLAND

SHIPWRECK OFF CAPE ANN, AUGUST 15th, 1635

"I must turn my drowned pen and shaking hand to indite the story of such sad news as never before this happened in New England. There was a league of perpetual friendship between my cousin Avery (Rev. Joseph Avery) and myself, never to forsake each other to the death, but to be partakers of each other's misery or welfare as also of habitation in the same place. Now upon our arrival at New England, there was an offer made unto us. My cousin Avery was invited to Marblehead to be their pastor in due time; there being no church planted there as yet, but a town appointed to set up the trade of fishing. Because many there (the most being fishermen) were something loose and remiss in their behavior, my cousin Avery was unwilling to go thither, and so refusing, we went to Newbury, intending there to sit down. But being solicited so often, both by men of the place and by the magistrates, and by Mr. Cotton, and most of the ministers, who alleged what a benefit we might be to the people there, and also to the country and the commonwealth, at length, we embraced it, and thither consented to go. They of Marblehead forthwith sent a pinnace for us and our goods. We embarked at Ipswich, August 11, 1635, with our families and substance, bound for Marblehead, we being in all twenty-three souls, viz: eleven in my cousin's family, seven in mine, and one Mr. William Elliot, sometime of New Sarum, and four mariners. The next morning having commended ourselves to God with cheerful hearts, we hoisted sail; but the Lord suddenly turned our cheerfulness into mourning and lamentations, for on the fourteenth of August 1635, about ten at night

having a fresh gale of wind, our sails being old and done, were split; the mariners, because that it was night, would not put to her new sails, but resolved to cast anchor till morning. But before daylight it pleased the Lord to send so mighty a storm as the like was never known in New England since the English came, nor in the memory of any of the Indians. It was so furious that our anchor came home, where upon the mariners let out more cable, which slipped away. Then our sailors knew not what to do; but we were driven before the wind and waves. My cousin and I perceived our danger, and solemly recommended ourselves to God, the Lord both of earth and seas, expecting with every wave to be swallowed up and drenched in the deep; and as my cousin, his wife, and my tender babes sat comforting and cheering one to the another in the Lord against ghastly death, which every moment stared us in the face, and sat triumphing upon each one's forehead; we were, by the violence of the waves and the fury of the winds (by the Lord's permission) lifted up upon a rock, between two high rocks, yet all was one rock; but it raged with the stroke which came into the pinnace, so as we were presently up to our middles in water as we sat. The waves came furiously and violently over us and against us, but by reason of the rock's position could not lift us off, but beat her all to pieces.

Now look with me on our distress and consider of my misery who beheld the ship broken and the water in her, and violently overwhelming us; my goods and provision swimming in the seas, my friends almost drown, and mine own poor children so untimely (if I may so term it without offence), before mine eyes, drowned and ready to be swallowed up and dashed to pieces against the rocks by the merciless waves, and myself ready to accompany them. But I must go on to an end of this woeful

relation. In the same room where he sat, the master of the pinnace not knowing what to do, our foremast was cut down, our mainmast broken in three pieces, the fore part of the pinnace beat away, our goods swimming about the seas, my children bewailing me as not pitying themselves, and myself bemoaning them, poor souls, who I had occasioned to such an end in their tender years, when as they could scarce be sensible of death. And so likewise my cousin, his wife and his children, and both of us bewailing each other, in our Lord and only Saviour, Jesus Christ, in whom only we had comfort and cheerfulness, in so much that from the greatest to the least of us, there was not one screech or outcry made, but all as silent sheep, were contentedly resolved to die together lovingly, as since our acquaintance we had lived together friendly. Now as I was sitting in the cabin room door with my body in the room, when lo, one of the sailors by a wave, being washed out of the pinnace, was gotten in again, and coming into the cabin room over my back, cried out, 'We are all cast away, the Lord have mercy upon us. I have been washed overboard into the sea and gotten in again.' His speech made me look forth and looking towards the sea, and seeing how we were, I turned myself to my cousin and the rest, and spake these words 'Oh cousin, it hath pleased God to cast us here between two rocks, the shore not far off from us for I saw the tops of trees when I looked forth' whereupon the master of the pinnace, looking up to the scuttlehole of the quarter deck, went out at it, but I never saw him afterward. Then he that had been in the sea went out again by me and leaped overboard towards the rocks, whom afterwards also I could not see. Now none were left in the barque that I knew or saw, but my cousin, his wife and children, myself and mine and his maid servant. But my cousin

thought I would have fled from him, and said unto me, 'Oh, cousin, leave me not, let us die together,' and reached forth his hand unto me. Then I, letting go my son Peter's hand, took him by the hand and said, 'Cousin, I purpose it not; whither shall I go? I am willing and ready here to die with you and my poor children. God be merciful to us and receive us to himself,' adding these words, 'the Lord is able and willing to help and deliver us.' He replied, saying, 'True, cousin, but what His pleasure is, we know not; I fear we have been too unthankful for former deliverances, but He hath promised to deliver us from sin and condemnation and bring us safe to heaven, through the all-sufficient satisfaction of Jesus Christ; this therefore we may challenge of Him.' To which I, replying, said 'that is all the deliverance I now desire and expect,' which words I no sooner said, but by a might wave I was with a piece of the barque, washed out upon part of the rock where the wave left me, almost drowned; but recovering my feet, I saw above me on the rock, my daughter Mary, to whom I had no sooner gotten but my cousin Avery and his eldest son same to us, being all four of us washed out by one and the same wave. We went all to a small hole on the top of the rock, whence we called to those in the pinnace to come unto us, supposing we had been in more safety then, than they were in. My wife seeing us there crept up into the scuttle of the quarter deck to come unto us; but presently came another wave, and dashing the pinnace all to pieces, carried my wife away in the scuttle as she was, with the greatest part of the quarter-deck unto the shore, where she was cast safely but her legs was something bruised, and much timber of the vessel being there also cast, she was sometime before she could get away, being washed by the waves. All the rest that were in the barque were drowned in the merciless seas.

We four by that wave were clean swept away from off the rock also, into the sea, the Lord in one instant of time disposing of fifteen souls of us according to his pleasure and will. His pleasure and wonderful great mercy to me was thus: Standing on the rock as before you heard, with my eldest daughter, my cousin and his eldest son, looking upon and talking to them in the barque, when as we were by that merciless wave washed off the rock, as before you heard, God in his mercy caused me to fall by the stroke of the wave, flat on my face, for my face was towards the sea, in so much that I was sliding off the rock into the sea, the Lord directed by toes into a joint of the rock's sides, as also the tops of some of my fingers, with my right hand, by means whereof, the wave leaving me I remained so, having in the rock only my head above the water, when on the left hand I spied a board or plank of the pinnace. And as I was reaching out my left hand to lay hold of it, by another coming over the top of the rock, I was washed away from the rock, and by the violence of the waves was driven hither and thither in the seas a great while, and had many dashes against the rocks. At length, past hopes of life, and wearied in body and in spirit, I even gave over to nature, and being ready to receive in the waters of death, I lifted up both my heart and hand to the God of heaven (for note), I had my senses remaining perfect with me all the time that I was under and in the water, who at that instant lifted my head above the top of the water that so I might breathe without any hindrance by the waters. I stood bolt upright as if I had stood upon my feet, but I felt no bottom, nor had any footing for to stand upon, but the waters. While I was thus above the water, I saw by me a piece of the mast, as I suppose, about three feet long, which I labored to catch into my arms. But suddenly I was overwhelmed

with water and driven to and fro again, and at last I felt the ground with my right foot, when immediately, whilst I was there groveling on my face, I presently, recovering my feet was in the water up to my breast, and through God's great mercy, had my face unto the shore, and not to the sea. I made haste to get out but was thrown down on my hands with the waves, and so with safety crept to dry shore, where, blessing God, I turned about to look for my children and friends, but saw neither nor any part of the pinnace where I left them as I supposed. But I saw my wife about a butt length from me getting herself forth from amongst the timber of the broken barque. But before I could get to her she was gotten to the shore. I was in the water, after I washed from the rock before I came to the shore, a quarter of an hour at least. When we were come each to the other we went and sat down on the bank. But fear of the seas' rolling and our coldness, would not suffer us there to remain. But we went up into the land and sat us down under a cedar tree, which the wind had thrown down, where we sat about an hour almost dead with cold. But now the storm was broken up, and the wind was calm, but the sea remained rough and fearful to us. My legs were bruised, and so my head was; other hurt I had none, neither had I teken in much quantity of water, but my heart would not let me sit still any longer, but I would go to see if any more were gotten to land in safety, especially hoping to have met with some of my own poor children; but I could find none, neither dead nor yet living. You condole with me my miseries who now begin to consider of my losses. Now came to my remembrance the time and manner how and when I last saw and left my children and friends. One was severed from me sitting on the rock at my feet, the other three in the pinnace. My little babe (oh, poor Peter), sitting in his sister Edith's

arms; who to the utmost of her power sheltered him from the waters. My poor William standing close to them, all three of them looking ruefully on me, on the rock, their very countenances calling unto me to help them, whom I could not go unto, neither could they come at me, neither would the merciless waves afford me space of time to use any means at all, either to help them or myself. Oh, I yet see their cheeks, poor silent lambs, plead pity and help at my hands. Then on the other side to consider the loss of my dear friends, with the spoiling and loss of all our goods and provisions; myself cast upon an unknown land in a wilderness, I knew not where nor how to get thence. Then it came to my mind how I had occasioned the death of my children; who caused them to leave their native land, who might have left them there, yea, and might have sent some back again and cost me nothing; These and such like thoughts do press down my heavy heart very much. But I must let this pass, and will proceed on in the relation of God's goodness unto me in that desolate island on which I was wet and cold even unto death. I found a snapsack cast on the shore in which I had a steel and flint and powder horn. Going further I found a drowned goat; then I found a hat and my son William's coat, both of which I put on. My wife found one of her petticoats, which she put on. I found also two cheeses and some butter driven ashore. Thus the Lord sent us some clothes to put on, and food to sustain our new lives, which we had lately given unto us, and means also to make fire for in an hour I had some gunpowder, which to mine own (and since to other men's) admiration was dry. So taking a piece of my wife's neckcloth, which I dried in the sun, I struck a fire, and so dried and warmed our wet bodies, and then skinned the goat, and having found a small brass pot, we boiled some of her. Our drink was brackish water.

Bread, we had none. There we remained until Monday following, when about three of the clock in the afternoon, in a boat that came that way, we went off that desolate island, which I named after my name, 'Thacher's Woe' and the rock "Avery, his fall', to the end that their fall and loss and mine own, might be had in perpetual remembrance. In the isle, lieth buried the body of my cousin's eldest daughter, whom I found dead on the shore. On the Tuesday following, in the afternoon, we arrived at Marblehead."

Anthony[2] Thacher removed to Yarmouth, Massachusetts, and was one of the original grantees of Yarmouth. He was also one of the first settlers of that town, and established his house and dwelling there late in 1639, on the border of the meadows in the north-west part of the village. The exact spot on which his homestead stood was a little knoll about midway between the residence (in 1872) of Mrs. James G. Hallett and that of Mr. Dustin Eldridge at Yarmouth Port, Massachusetts.

It was also in 1639 that Anthony[2] Thacher became town clerk and treasurer of Yarmouth and remained in this capacity until his death in 1667, when he was succeeded by Mr. Edmund Hawes. As the official records of the "General Court of Plymouth" show, Anthony Thacher was an active leader in many of the early developments of the town of Yarmouth. Anthony[2] Thacher died at Yarmouth, Massachusetts, between June 30, 1667, and August 22, 1667, and was buried on his own land in Yarmouth, not far from the marsh, by a little button pear tree situated near the marsh. This pear tree is said to have been planted by his own hands, and which Alden in his "Epitaphs" states was standing in 1814. Swift in his "Old Yarmouth" states that the tree was standing in 1884. The general location of his resting place is therefore known, but the identical spot is unknown, as his grave is not now, nor as far as knowledge extends, has ever been marked by a gravestone. When and where Elizabeth Jones Thacher, widow of Anthony[2] Thacher, died and was buried is not a matter of record, but it is almost a certainty that she died in Yarmouth subsequent to 1667.8 and was buried there beside her deceased husband.

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